

Rip H Ruppert motivates team while his alter ego Wall Hakim aims to motivate the community.

Page B1



Whoopi gets wild in PBS special, "In the Wild: Zoo Babies with Whoopi Goldberg." Quote: "I hope I don't have to burp him!"

Page B5



Hamptons and both on a

Page B8

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Vol. 16, No. 52

Serving New Jersey's African-American communities since 1983

Corzine launches Senate bid

By Carl Chase
Staff Writer

Political newcomer Jon Corzine, the former chairman-CEO of the Goldman Sachs banking house, on Sept. 23 presented ambitious goals to control handgun violence, bring America's prosperity to all of the less fortunate.

His platform — pro-labor, abortion choice and gun control, includes universal health care, long-term care, high-quality public education, access to opportunity and public safety through monitoring gun possession — Jon Corzine said as he was introduced as a candidate for governor.

He called for expanding Medicare to guarantee affordable prescription drugs.

It's time to demand that our seniors ahead of the overreaching grasp of special interests," he said at his home on a tree-lined road in Summit, considered a Republican stronghold. His low-key tone contrasted with political pro like State Sen. Sharpe James and Assemblywoman Loretta Weinberg, Corzine's campaign chair.

Corzine vows to make pushing for universal health care his first official act in the Senate. Here's how: Cover every U.S. child, require employers to provide health coverage for all workers, help small business and access to lower-cost group insurance, and help individuals who still don't have coverage with the same affordable health plan U.S. senators have.

With universal long-term care for seniors, he touted financial relief for those who currently would have to impoverish themselves to receive Medicare.

After the official launch in Summit, Corzine introduced his platform to an inner-city neighborhood in North Camden.

Pastor Gary Banks, a Camden native, stood at the corner of 7th and Bailey streets. "We heard the stories about crime. It is today and violence was virtually nonexistent. Today the opportunities available to the young people here in Camden have decreased."

Corzine said he stands for the creation an Inner City Investment Bank to "bring venture capital, new business and new jobs into places that have been left behind or left out of our prosperity."

Mothers of 20th Century

By Gilda Rogers
Staff Writer

"The Century's Grand Finale Convention" was the theme of this year's NAACP State Convention. Indeed, the event proved to be everything Dr. Elaine Harrington, president of the NJ NAACP, and convention chairwoman Marguerite Brown Chambers hoped it would be — a regal occasion fit for queens. A special recognition to "20th Century Mothers," an emphasis of the gala honored the mothers of Jersey grown celebrities: Cissy Houston, Whitney Houston's mother, Rita Owens, Queen Latifah's mother, Helene Evans, Faith Evans' mother, Yvette Glover, Savion Glover's mother, and the grand dame of mothers — Rosa Parks, the mother of the modern day Civil Rights Movement. "was presented with a special honoree plaque by an emotional Harrington. The spirited evening, marking the end of the convention's century was a festive memory.

NAACP Convention honors Rosa Parks and moms of NJ celebrities



Four mothers credited with raising famous African American entertainers and role models received honors from the NAACP. From left, Helene Evans (mother of Faith Evans), Rita Owens (mother of Queen Latifah), Yvette Glover (mother of Savion Glover), and Cissy Houston (mother of Whitney Houston). For full story details on the NAACP Convention, see page A8.

Poverty rising despite healthy economy

Robert E. Williams III
Staff Writer

NEWARK — More New Jersey families live as working poor than a decade ago despite America's economic boom and low unemployment, according to a new study by the Association for Children of New Jersey. It also showed that working minorities families are more likely to be poor.

The study found that the number of working poor families increased by 3.9 percent, from 9.0 percent in 1987-1989 earning below the federal poverty level, to 12.9 percent in 1995-1997. Forty percent of these families are Hispanic, though Hispanics comprise just 12 percent of New Jersey's population. African Americans, only 15 percent

plies.

Minority children were at least five times more likely to be poor than white children. About 37 percent of Hispanic children and 31 percent of African-American children were members of poor households, compared to only 6 percent of white children. In Essex County alone, 15 percent of county residents were poor, and 25 percent of those are children.

The estimated livable wage for a family of four (two adults and two children) is \$37,932, which is twice the federal poverty level (\$16,588) for a family of the same size. This assuming that this same family earning \$37,932 family does not go out to eat in restaurants, purchase major appliances or life insurance, save money toward retirement, children's education or vacations. This family would obtain child care that is 30 percent cheaper than the average cost in New Jersey, and spend half the what the average New Jersey family spends on transportation.

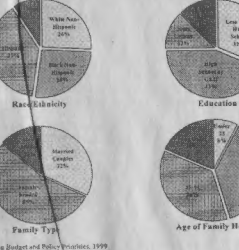
To help counter this problem, the report concludes that the state income tax threshold should be increased. In 1998, the threshold for a family of three or four members was \$7,500, the seventh and fifth lowest in the nation respectively. A bill is on Gov. Christie Whitman's desk that would raise the threshold.

Other recommendations include enacting a state Earned Income Tax Credit, increasing the state minimum wage, outreach programs such as KidCare (which provides free or cut-rate health insurance for children in New Jersey), and expanding child care programs.

The Cost of Living in New Jersey For a Family of Four

Expenses:	Annual Cost
Food	\$6,398
Transportation	\$2,921
Housing	\$9,672
Child Care	\$3,136
Health Care	\$3,818
Clothing/Personal	\$3,117
Telephone	\$ 777
Taxes	\$8,093
Total:	\$37,932

Profile of New Jersey working poor families with children



Source: Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, 1999.

African Americans, only 15 percent of the state population, made up 26 percent of the working poor families in New Jersey. Whites were 70 percent of the state population and only 26 percent of working poor families.

of the state population, made up 26 percent of the working poor families in New Jersey. Whites were 70 percent of the state population and only 26 percent of working poor families. Fifty percent of working poor households were female-headed, and 32 percent by married couples.

Jersey City resident's educational game teaches diversity

By Gloria Dulan-Wilson
Special to City News

"Who are the people in your neighborhood?" the familiar song from Sesame Street, begs the question: Do we really know our neighbors? Or are we the cliché ugly Americans concerned only with our own little microcosm?

Actually, we are a confluence of cultural influences conscious and subconscious, which shape our lives and personalities. On any given day in New York and New Jersey, we interact with people from at least 60 different cultures. We see their traditional dress, hear their accents, sample their cuisine.

But how much do we know about each other's culture, for instance? What is the little red dot in the middle of an East Indian woman's forehead? Why is it an insult to extend your left hand to an African man or woman? When two Japanese people bow to each other, who bows the lowest, and why?

Have'n't a clue? Well relax, help is on



Denise Bailey, inventor of the game 'Diversity Works', with her creation.

the way in the form of fun, enlightening games for ages 8 and up.

"Diversity Works" is an educational card game that teaches appreciation of

60 different cultures, developed by veteran and Jersey City resident Denise Bailey. Cultural Concepts, Bailey's company, developed it to teach youth and adults of different cultural backgrounds.

Bailey, a former high school English teacher, designed it to promote racial tolerance and understanding by sharing multicultural information, and to foster a sense of pride among children who come from various cultures. "I believe that if people realize how much more they have in common than they do differences, they will spend more time sharing than fighting. Diversity Works is a fun way of making that possible," she said.

The game, sold in Paramus and Bridgewater, the New York Public Library, Metropolitan Museum of Art, 71 Store of Knowledge outlets and elsewhere,

features a deck of cards that highlight fashions, foods, etiquette, sports, music, holidays, religions, business practices and languages of cultures around the world.

The cards have questions on one side and a letter on the other. When the question is correctly answered, the player is allowed to place the letter side up. The whole group wins when the cards spell D-I-V-E-R-S-I-T-Y. The player who adds the last letter to the word gets bonus points; the player who earns the most points is the "universal" winner.

Bailey's company Website, with a "share your heritage" section for visitors, cultural traditions and customs, is at www.cultural-concepts.com.

Julian Bond: Racial profiling must end

by Carl Chase
Staff Writer

FAIRFIELD — Racial profiling must end along with its offspring — jails bursting with black males, says NAACP Chairman Julian Bond.

Bond links racial profiling to lost voting rights of the 1920s in 111 years, black men ineligible to vote in last November's election. "It means Julian Bond more than humiliation and inconvenience. It is responsible for packing prisons and jails with blacks. 'One in three black males between 20 and 29 is under some form of criminal justice supervision. One result is that 13 percent of all the black men in the United States could not vote in the last election," he said to an audience at the NAACP's Business and Corporate Luncheon last week-end.

"These men had done a crime, and they served their time. No other democratic nation denies this most basic of civil rights because of felony convictions. We must restore these men to their civil rights and their civic responsibilities."

The epidemic of police violence against minorities amounts to "open season on minorities," he said.

Also epidemic: "We demand fair treatment for people with HIV and AIDS, especially people of color. HIV/AIDS strikes African-American women more than any other group," he said.

"We have to make sure our children get the best education, education that prepares them for the century to come. None of this is easy work, but we've never wished our way to freedom. We have worked our way."

Bond said blacks must work with groups that have interests in common with blacks. "We'll soon no longer be the nation's largest minority — Where there are others who share our condition or concerns, even if they do not share our history, we must make common cause with them."

Re-fighting old battles

America is far better than at the turn of the Century, he said. Still, however, "We find ourselves re-fighting old battles we thought already won. We find ourselves digitally divided by new problems we have barely begun to acknowledge," said Bond, who teaches Civil Rights history on the college level.

Congress has not been this hostile to civil rights in decades. "The signals are more than clear: The former Speaker of the House filed a lawsuit to keep racial minorities from being counted in the next census. The present Speaker was cosponsor in the last Congress of a resolution to eliminate all federal equal-opportunity programs."

"We need guarantees of justice. They give us lectures on morality. We need protection from an epidemic of gun violence. They give us the Ten Commandments. We want public schools that educate every child. They give us public welfare for private schools. We want to keep our cities from burning. They want to keep our flag from burning."

The same white leaders have adopted a strategy of denial, he said. "The Senate Judiciary committee killed a traffic act that would have authorized collecting facts and figures to prove the existence of DWB — driving while black... And they don't do the census to count racial minorities? Don't count, no numbers, no Negroes. Maybe racial discrimination will go away."

Community Calendar

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 30

BERKLEY HEIGHTS — The Volunteer Guild of RUNNELLS Specialized Hospital of Union County will hold a jewelry vendor sale, 8 a.m. (908) 771-5730.

NEWARK — Karriem Abdallah Associates, Inc. presents Hard Point Karate World Championship at the Robert Treat Hotel, 7 p.m. (973) 623-6419.

PLAINFIELD — United National Community Education Center hosts a workshop on perfecting resumes and successful interviews, 10 a.m. (908) 753-7364.

WAYNE — William Paterson University hosts a lecture and symposium on the technology revolution, 7 p.m. (973) 720-2066.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 1

FANWOOD — Parenting Pathways hosts its scrapbook group meeting. The workshop give people a chance put together a scrapbook of old photos and movies of family and friends. The workshop will take place the Fanwood Community Room, 7 p.m. (908) 885-5825.

CAMDEN — The New Jersey Department of Education sponsor the first New Jersey National Historic Day Student Historians Conference at the Rutgers Student Center, 9 a.m. (609) 292-6062.

NEWARK — The Ebony Fashion Fair from Chicago stops at Newark Symphony Hall showcasing the best fashions and designs from all over the world, 7 p.m. (973) 643-8009.

IRVINGTON — The Cherokee Nation of New Jersey hosts a five nation intertribal pow wow at 40th Street Park through Oct. 3, 12 p.m. (973) 351-1210.

NEWARK — The Newark Emergency Services for Families, Inc. (NESF) hosts its annual meeting. Plus a tribute to State Senator the late Wynona Loman at the PSE&G Plaza, 9 a.m. (973) 643-5727.

NEWARK — The Fifteenth Annual Wine Tasting returns to the Newark

Museum to benefit The Boys & Girls Clubs of Newark, 5:30 p.m. (973) 242-1200.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 2

METUCHEN — The Forum Theater Company presents the kids play "I Want My Mummy," 11 a.m. (732) 548-4070.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 4

NEW YORK — The best male dancers in the world will come out celebrate each other work and style at "A Few Good Men Dancin'." The show will benefit dancers responding to AIDS at the New Victory Theater, 7:30 p.m. (212) 840-0070.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 5

NEW YORK — The Rev. Al Sharpton will celebrate his 46th birthday with grand party open to the public. Master of Ceremony will be soul legend Isaac Hayes and plus special surprise guests. The event will take place at Ganau Baptist Church, 6 p.m. (212) 370-5483.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 8

PISCATAWAY — Secretary of State for New Jersey, Dr. Forest "Buster" Soles will be the keynote speaker for "Bridging the Gap: Grandparents as Parents' Advocacy Conference at Rutgers University's Busch Campus Center, 8:30 a.m. (973) 923-9599.

MONTCLAIR — The Child Care Center at Montclair State University presents "Battle of the Bands." The fund-raiser helps raise money for the child care center. Call (973) 655-4333 for time and information.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 9

FLEMINGTON — St. Magdalen Church, Parish Center presents the Eighth Annual All American Antique and Collectible Pottery Show, 9:30 a.m. (908) 369-1159.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 12

IRVINGTON — The WARIS Cultural Center and the Urban League of Essex County will offer free computer training during the day at the WARIS Cultural Center, Call (973) 624-5535 for time and information.

FHL awards grant to YMCA in Jersey City



JERSEY CITY — Jim Florio (third right), Chairman of the Federal Home Loan and former Governor of New Jersey, recently announced the awarding of \$500,000 housing grant to the former YMCA of Jersey City. The grant will be used for rehabilitation and renovation of the former Jersey City YMCA so that it can continue to provide 131 units of very low income tenants. On hand for the celebration are (l-r) Jerry Velasquez, director of New Jersey Operations of The Community Builders, Jersey City Councilwoman Mary Donnelly, Ann Marie Uebbing, director of the Department of Housing Economic Development in Commerce, Brian Keenan, Project Manager of The Community Builders, Cynthia Cooper, Site Manager of The Community Builders, Faye Peters, Portfolio Manager, and Denise Mason, Assistant Vice President of Summit Bank.

Johnson named vice president for student affairs at Bloomfield College



BLOOMFIELD — Bloomfield College recently announced the appointment of John A. Johnson of New York City as vice president for student affairs and dean of students. Johnson has served with distinction as an administrator and teacher for New York University (NYU), the Archdiocese of New York, and the New York City Board of Education. Johnson comes to Bloomfield College from NYU, where he was assistant dean for administration and student affairs for the Gallatin School of Individualized Study. Prior to that he provided career counseling, coordinated recruitment activities, and conducted seminars as an associate director of career services. In 1995, he was honored by NYU Senate as outstanding administrator. INROADS named him "educator of the year."

Congressman Menendez honors scholarship winners at Lincoln Tech

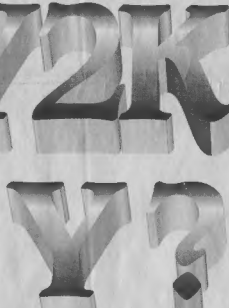


UNION — Congressman Robert Menendez (second right) congratulates the recipients of the Menendez Congressional Scholarships at Lincoln Technical Institute in Union, receiving the scholarships are Johnny Ghobrial (second left) of Jersey City and Keyne Bottello (center) of Union City. Both students are studying automotive technology. Also on hand is Director of Lincoln campus in Union Mike Zucher (far left) and Lincoln's government affairs consultant Gene McNary.

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Don't worry. Celebrate. Investors Savings Bank is looking forward to doing business as usual with you throughout the remainder of this year and into the next millennium.

This constitutes a Year 2000 Readiness Disclosure as defined in the Year 2000 Information and Readiness Act.

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Clinton, Gore affirm ties at CBCF awards dinner

By Gloria Dulac-Wilson
Staff Writer

The 29th Annual Congressional Black Caucus Foundation (CBCF) Awards Dinner started off in grand style, with all the glamour and elegance befitting the largest, most prestigious gathering of political and corporate movers and shakers. This year there was a break in the routine, with the offerings of Congress members, hosting, and celebrities. Serving as joint MCs and living metaphors of passing the baton symbolizing the continuity between elders and youth were Miguel L. Clyburn, public service commissioner and daughter of CBC Chair James and Emily Clyburn; Mr. Earl Hilliard, Jr., Attorney at law and actor, son of Earl and Mary Hilliard of Alabama; Lori Stokes, Emmy Award winning co-anchor of MSNBC's "NBC News Today in America," daughter of former congressman Louis Stokes and Jeanette Stokes; Brian Watt, Actor and Political campaign manager; son of Melvin "Mel" and Eulalia Watt of North Carolina.

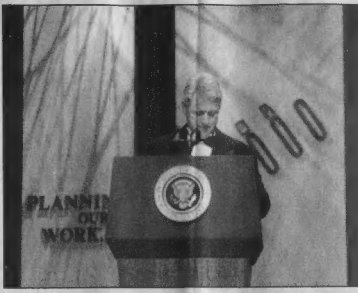
President Clinton, who has attended every CBCF Dinner since his election, was accompanied for the first time by Hillary Rodham Clinton. Vice President Gore attended with wife Tipper Gore. Also in attendance were Secretary of Labor Alexis Herman and Attorney General Janet Reno.

Award recipients were Alvin Brown, Executive Director Community Empowerment Board, Office of the Vice President Albert Gore, Jr., who received the Caucus Chairman's award; Julius L. Chambers, Chancellor, North Carolina Central University, recipient of the Adam Clayton Powell, Jr. Award for Legislative and Legal Perfection; Rear Admiral Edwin J. Fields, recipient of the Ralph M. Metcalfe Health,

Medicine and Science Award; and radio talk show personality, Tom Joyner recipient of the Mickey Leland Humanitarian and Religious Award (Joyner's son received the award on behalf of his father).

Presidential candidate Al Gore, who spoke prior to President Clinton, had paid a pre-dinner impromptu visit to the Grand Hyatt, official CBCF gathering place, to meet and speak candidly with attendees on a one-on-one basis, and pose for photo opportunities. CBCF Chair, Eddie Bernice Johnson stated: "Vice President Gore has proven his commitment over and over again countless times he has supported investments in underserved communities and has been supportive of more jobs and more black owned businesses." He was in rare form, displaying his unique sense of humor, stating: "We think we are one of the most successful administrations in history, because of, not despite of diversity. He said his grandson was born on the 4th of July. 'When you get to a new stage in life, you notice things. I saw a bumper sticker that said, 'If I had known how much fun grandchildren were, I would have had them first.'"

On a more serious note, Gore contrasted the Clinton/Gore administration to that of former president George Bush, stating, "There is no clearer indication of how much work we have to do than the budget that's just been passed by the Congress over the objection of the CBCF. This risky tax scheme is so incredibly irresponsible; they cannot make the numbers add up. They can't even



President Clinton addresses the CBCF Convention at its awards dinner

a lot of successes going on in this country...it's always a battle between celebrating our successes and focusing the agenda that remains undone. We've got a lot of work to do focus on the Community Reinvestment Act; stand by Affirmative Action; make sure that we have an accurate census that counts everyone accurately. There is no clearer indication of how much work we have to do than the budget that's just been passed by the Congress over the objection of the CBCF. This risky tax scheme is so incredibly irresponsible; they cannot make the numbers add up. They can't even agree among themselves. In fact, the Republican Party today is in such a state of confusion that the right hand doesn't know what the left hand is doing."

Gore continued, "So what do they really have in mind? I was listening to the analysis by the CBC about who gets the goodies from that risky tax scheme, and who benefits the most — the wealthiest 1 percent will get 4 times as much as the poorest 60 percent. That's wrong. That's unfair. That's Republican! We ought to tie the surplus to Medicare, Social Security, prescription benefits for seniors, pay down the

debt, give a target tax cut to our middle income families and have plenty left over to invest in our future. Revolutionary changes in our schools and trust our teachers like the heroes they are." In order to do the right thing, we have to act and not just talk. He praised the CBCF's work. "We need changes that work for working families."

Clinton's speech supported Gore's call to do more. "We must ensure we will pass on a lifetime of prosperity to our children. We are continuing to try to involve businesses, create the so-called digital divide by putting computers in every classroom in America. It is important that we fund the empowerment zones, give Americans the same incentive to invest in poor neighborhoods that we give to invest in overseas. I wish we could give more to the Caribbean, Central America, Africa, South Africa. I want to do the same thing in the Appalachians, or our urban centers."

"When we go into this political scene where everyone will turn up the rhetoric, you ought to ask yourself, 'Are these people looking for a way to assume responsibility or to dump it. We have to make this election your year for assuming responsibility, not dumping it! Make the year 2000 the year we stop using excuses for these people's inactivity; we cannot use that as an excuse. Make America a safer place where our children can grow up safe, well

and happy. Let me just say for the record and for the press here: Most of the things the Congressional Black Caucus has really worked for have not benefited African Americans exclusively. More of the things they have fought for were designed to give all Americans a chance to live up to the fullest of their God given capacity...to give All Americans a chance to come together."

He closed by saying, "No one can predict the future. I have loved this job and I'm going to do it to the best of my ability every day that I have left of my term. I am going to do it to the best of my ability. And I am going to do it every day I have left on this planet. No one can see the future, but I know this, and you do, too. If every American really believed that we are all human beings, that we have an obligation to try to draw closer together, and be better neighbors to others throughout the world, then all the rest of our problems would more easily melt away."

After exhorting the CBCF to keep in mind their "enormous potential" to reach the heart and soul of America, and that we must be "one" the dinner ended with the attendees gathering around Clinton to shake his hand, garner that much coveted photo op, and congratulate him for having made his administration look like America.

NATIONAL BRIEF

SIMPSON PETITIONS COURT FOR IN-LAWS' PHONE RECORDS

(NNPA) — A legal team representing O.J. Simpson filed a Rule 27 motion on last week with the U.S. District Court of San Angelo, Texas ordering GTE Corporation, the long distance provider for Louis and Judith Brown, to produce their phone records for June 12, 1994, the night Nicole Brown Simpson and Ronald Goldman were murdered.

Simpson investigators are focusing on a possible oversight by Los Angeles prosecutors and Don Petroselli (it is alleged that lawyers may have introduced fraudulent phone records, masking the fact that Nicole and her mother were talking on the phone at the same time O.J. was being transported by limousine to L.A. International Airport.

According Simpson Attorney Mary Cox, "The morning following the murders, Louis Brown stated that Nicole and her mother spoke by phone at about 11 p.m. One week later, he recorded his initial statement, alleging the time they spoke was closer to 9:30 p.m." Official copies of the Browns' phone records were never introduced as evidence. Exhibits submitted by Clark and Petroselli were only replicas and curiously stipulated by Simpson attorney Robert Shapiro.

The Simpson legal team is hoping to prove that Nicole was alive while he departed for Chicago.

International

GABON, CAMEROON COMPETE FOR NEW STOCK EXCHANGE

LIBREVILLE (IPS) — As the Community of Central African States (CEMAC) prepares to launch its new regional stock market, member countries are still debating whether the new institution should be housed in Gabon or Cameroon. The Central African Exchange of Stocks and Shares (BVMAC) will not be fully operational until December 2000, but will begin to list in October.

Member countries have to weigh the benefits of each country, and come to a decision on where to locate the headquarters.

Six Central African countries, which share the common currency of the CFA Franc, will be united.

The Journal and Guide

NOFOLK, VIRGINIA, SEPTEMBER 10, 1991

VOLUME 100, NO. 1

DR. MORRIS

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VOLUME 1

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The Voice of the People

For more than 150 years, African-American newspapers have provided a voice for the black community and a forum for examining issues of critical importance to both that community and the larger society.

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- 1895 *Indianapolis Recorder*
- 1905 *Chicago Defender*
- 1909 *Amsterdam News*
- 1909 *Norfolk Journal & Guide*
- 1910 *Pittsburgh Courier*
- 1912 *St. Louis Argus*
- 1920 *Cleveland Call & Post*



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Miller Brewing Company
Philip Morris International Inc.
Philip Morris U.S.A.

BUSINESS CALENDAR

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 30

PLAINFIELD—United National Bank Community Education Center hosts seminar and workshop on creating the perfect resume for a successful interview. 10 a.m. (908) 753-7364.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 5

SCOTTSBORO—Sixteen family-owned businesses will share the spotlight at the Seventh Annual New Jersey Family Business of the Year Awards at the Doubletree Hotel. Call (201) 962-7030 for time and information.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 6

SOUTH ORANGE—The Non-Profit South Orange Institute of Home Inventory hosts a discussion on what makes corporate and community collaborations successful at Seton Hall University. 6:30 a.m. (973) 275-2405.

NEW YORK—The Regional Alliance For Small Contractors hosts its Seventh Annual Awards Luncheon. The theme is "Building Our Future." The New York Hilton and Towers. 11:30 a.m. (212) 432-6506.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 8

JAMESBURGH—The New Jersey Business and Industry Association (NJBA) hosts the "Powerhouse '99 Expo" at the Fort George Country Club. Call (908) 393-7707 for time and information.

NEW YORK—Selective Corporate Internship Program (SCIP) salutes the corporate sponsors, entrepreneurs and scholars who worked with us to create the business leaders of tomorrow. Sheraton New York Hotels and Towers. 11:30 a.m. (212) 951-SCIP.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 14

UNION—The Union County Economic Development Corporation hosts a seminar on promoting downtown. Call (908) 527-1166 for time and information.

PRINCETON—First Baptist Community Development Corporation hosts its annual gala at the Hyatt Regency. 5 p.m. (732) 247-4592.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 17

WASHINGTON—The U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) hosts its Global Business Summit at the Grand Hyatt Hotel through Oct. 18. Call 1-800-U-ASK-SBA for time and information.

Hispanic Business Today airs on WNBC

NEW YORK—The United States Hispanic Chamber of Commerce recently launched its new television show with WNBC-TV. "Hispanic Business Today," the first such national Hispanic television show, is a forum that showcases the contributions of Hispanic entrepreneurs and chambers of commerce and the USHCC's Corporate partners.

"The production of Hispanic Business Today is yet another milestone for the USHCC," said George Herrera, president and chief executive officer of the national chamber, which represents and supports more than 200 local

chambers here and in Puerto Rico. "The program will allow us to showcase the many contributions Hispanic Americans are making not only to our economy but to our society," Herrera said.

Our collaboration with WNBC-TV, which has been in the planning stages for several months, is truly indicative of what transpires from constructive dialogue with the private sector," Herrera added.

The show premiered on Sunday, Sept. 19 in eight major cities: New York, Philadelphia, Washington, Miami, Dallas, Chicago, Los Angeles and San Diego.



WNBC anchor Lynda Baquero hosts "Hispanic Business Today"

Nationwide focuses on black families in TV ad

COLUMBUS, Ohio—Using their thumbs and index fingers to "Picture This," African Americans with financial security in

mind can envision a glimpse of the peace of mind that Nationwide ("On Your Side") wants to provide in a TV blitz that recent-

ly hit national network and cable television networks.

Developed by Chicago-based agency Burrell Communications Group, the 30-second commercial signals the arrival of a more contemporary image for Nationwide. Filmed in black and white with an urban flair, the montage of images repeat the motif of a frame that dissolves into what Nationwide Chairman and CEO Dimon R. McFerson describes as the company's "living in ego," a blue frame. At the end of the spot, viewers hear the familiar tag line on which Nationwide has built its customer service reputation: "Nationwide. On your side."

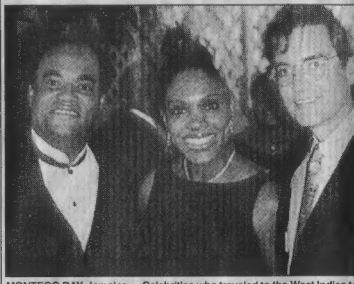
Citing brand recognition as a bond in building lifetime relationships with customers, McFerson said the company seeks to "underscore the message that Nationwide is changing to provide insurance and financial services that are far easier to approach."

The company five long-term growth strategy also led it to enhance its commitment to cultivating more African American customers than ever, and to that end, numerous housing and other initiatives were announced recently, or are in development.

"As we prepare for the new millennium, Americans have far more insurance choices and control than ever before," McFerson said. "Nationwide recognizes that it has to be ever more interactive and customer-friendly. One of the goals of the ad campaign is to communicate how Nationwide is changing to customers' needs."

Over the years, Nationwide has provided more than \$30 million in financial investments and grants to Neighborhood Housing Services toward neighborhood revitalization in urban cities.

Actress Sheryl Lee Ralph backs Jamaican commerce



MONTEGO BAY, Jamaica—Celebrities who traveled to the West Indies to gather in Montego Bay at the Chamber of Commerce Annual Dinner include, left to right, high-tech philanthropist Tyrone D. Taborn, publisher of USBE Information Technology Magazine; actress and Jamaican native Sheryl Lee Ralph; and America Online President Bob Pittman. Taborn announced the donation of computers for all the post offices in St. James, Jamaica, enabling some 400,000 Jamaicans to have access to e-mail and the Internet. Minister of Commerce and Technology Phillip Paulwell called this one of the most important investments in Jamaica.

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Plan your estate, or the state will



Dale G. Caldwell

Few people think about the distribution of their assets at death, especially in the black community. Too many blacks die without a plan to distribute their estate. This typically results in unnecessary taxes and fees that limit the amount of money passed onto heirs.

You may not be familiar with estate planning. In short, it is a financial planning technique designed to coordinate the distribution of your assets at death in the most efficient manner. Estate planning helps to minimize taxes and fees so that more of your estate is shared.

How do you start an estate plan? There are three key things that you should do to begin an estate plan. These are:

- 1 Determine the net value of your estate.
- 2 Develop a plan to distribute your estate.
- 3 Finalize your will.

Net Estate Value

To determine the total value of your estate add up the total estimated value of your assets when you die (your savings, the market value of your home, life insurance payments, etc.). This is called the gross estate value. After determining the gross value of the estate add your total liabilities (home mortgage and other debts that your estate would have to pay upon your death). The net value of your estate is the difference between your assets and liabilities at your death.

Estate Distribution

Once you have determined the net value of your estate you must decide how it should be distributed. This is often a very difficult task. It is hard to think about the lives of your loved ones after your death. However, this planning can help your heirs live a more fruitful life than they otherwise would have lived. For example, you can increase the value of your estate with sufficient life insurance to pay for your children's education or pay off a mortgage on the family home.

Creating a Will

A will lets you follow your own distribution plan and appoint an executor. If you die without a will (which is called dying intestate) the state will appoint an executor and decide how your estate will be divided. Frequently, appointed executors will charge \$100 or more an hour to settle an estate. This may take a large sum of money out of the estate. A will also allows you to name a guardian for your children. Without a will, the local probate judge will decide who should be the guardian of your children. Ideally, you should have a financial planner or attorney with experience preparing and executing wills to review your will. You should have your will updated whenever there is a major change to your life (new child, second marriage), or at least once every five years.

Federal Estate Tax

A federal estate tax is applied to the gross estate ranging from 37% (for estates valued up to \$45,000) to 55 percent (for estates valued over \$3 million). In addition, most states levy an estate tax or an inheritance tax on the value of the property owned at death. Successful estate planning involves attempting to minimize estate taxes.

Tax Minimization Techniques

Living trusts are an excellent way to minimize estate taxes and direct assets to your beneficiary. There are two types — revocable and irrevocable. A revocable trust provides you with control over the assets in the trust. You can change the beneficiary as you see fit.

The marital tax deduction allows property to pass to a spouse free of federal taxes. In addition, each person is entitled to the unified estate and gift tax credit which shelters assets up to \$625,000 from federal and estate gift taxes. Moreover, each individual may give up to \$10,000 to an unlimited number of persons without incurring a tax on the gift. Estate planning is very complicated. I recommend that you find a professional who can help you develop a comprehensive estate plan. If you need any help identifying a financial planner or an estate planning attorney please feel free to e-mail me at dalcaldwell@attus.com or contact City News.

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Religion

September 29—October 5, 1999

RELIGION CALENDAR

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 1

NEWARK — Gospel Outreach Team Ministry hosts a fund drive for the nation of Ghana. Call (973) 372-8990 for line and information.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 14

PRINCETON — First Baptist Community Development Corporation of Somerset hosts its annual gala at the Hyatt Regency Hotel. (732) 247-4592.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 22

HAWTHORNE — Hawthorne Gospel Church will host the 38th Annual Christian Ministries Convention through Oct. 23. Call (800) 363-4410 for line and information.

Churches gather to confront black AIDS crisis

NEW YORK — With more black churches across the country joining the movement to stop AIDS, the Balm in Gilead is providing a first-of-its-kind opportunity for members of black churches to gain skills to start their own AIDS ministries.

The Black Church HIV/AIDS Training Institute will take place Thursday, October 29 through the 9 at the Sheraton Buckhead Hotel in Atlanta. AIDS is the leading cause of death for African Americans aged 25 to 44. One in every 50 black American men has HIV (the virus that causes AIDS); one in 160 black women has the virus. In 1993, the Congressional Black Caucus requested that the federal government declare a national state of health emergency because of HIV/AIDS in black communities.

Black churches, with their history of educating and mobilizing African Americans during times of crisis, are creating AIDS education and care efforts at an increasing rate. The training in greater need for HIV/AIDS programs tailored specifically to the culture of black churches programs such as the Black Church HIV/AIDS Training Institute and other Balm in Gilead offerings. "Perhaps one of the many reasons for the alarming AIDS profile of black Americans is that black churches have been slow to take leadership in stopping the epidemic," says Bernessa C. Seale, Founder/CEO of the Balm in Gilead. "But as more churches make AIDS a priority, the Black Church HIV/AIDS Training Institute will be instrumental in helping them become community centers for HIV/AIDS education, compassion and advocacy." Says Seale, "The magnitude of the black AIDS crisis makes Atlanta, home of the Civil Rights Movement, a meaningful and appropriate location for the Institute."

According to Seale, the Institute will allow some of the nation's leading black experts on AIDS and related issues to transfer their knowledge to black pastors and church members.

The noteworthy faculty will provide in-depth education about HIV/AIDS prevention and treatment; techniques for integrating HIV/AIDS education into the church's existing work; greater understanding of scriptural references that support church activism in response to AIDS; skills to help churches address the social, economic and psychological impacts of AIDS; and the insider's view on the politics of AIDS and why Black communities are being short-changed.

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the essence of spirituality a la' NAACP

How the branch of Edison/Metuchen meeting flipped the script on reporter's objectivity

By Amy Meckeler
Correspondent

One of the basic lessons journalists students learn is how to write objective when covering most news stories, which means that by the time they become reporters they have learned how to put their subjective feelings and experiences on hold and report the facts. But when this journalist covered the September 9 general meeting of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) Metuchen/Edison branch, I discovered an exception to the theory of objectivity.

I was assigned to cover the meeting because Iyania Vanzant, nationally recognized inspirational speaker and author, would be leading a discussion on self-empowerment. When I arrived, however, I learned that Vanzant would not be speaking, but she would be the main topic of discussion.

Vanzant has given spiritual guidance to thousands of people around the nation, and her network of fans and devotees have shared her philosophy with others, a phenomenon exemplified at the NAACP meeting. Many of the members present shared personal testimonies about negative or challenging life experiences and how Vanzant's discourse has changed their attitudes and their lives.

When I read her books, it seems like she is speaking to me. I realize that other people feel that way, too, which means that I am not alone in what I am going through. That makes me feel good," one member said.

Author of several best selling books including "Tugging at the Power Within," "Acts of Faith" and



Amy Meckeler's assignment to cover Iyania Vanzant was an eventful evening

"In the Meantime: Finding Yourself and the Love You Want." Vanzant has also been a public defender and an ordained minister. She is the national spokesperson for Literacy Volunteers of America and the founder and Executive Director of Inner Visions Spiritual Life Maintenance Network, a program Oprah Winfrey taps into and features on both her talk show and website.

"My greatest desire is for people to know who they are from the inside out and to use that knowledge as a tool of empowerment and love," says Vanzant.

Reginald "Reggie" Johnson, branch president, invited me to sit in the discussion circle rather than observe from the back of the room. Relieving my obvious apprehension, he offered a welcoming grin. "The circle cannot be broken," he said. Of course, I thought. But just as I sat down and resumed a rigid posture—pen and note pad in hand, legs crossed Reggie asked everyone to stand and join hands for a prayer.

From that point on, I began to feel the essence of the power of spirituality, a power that hindered my ability to be the distant observer which I had every intention of being. The opening prayer and the introductions of the members present, who are remarkably committed to other programs empowering various communities, were as inspiring as the discussion of Vanzant that followed. The members united and accountable, are the power that transform lives, both personally and universally. They are committed to making a difference in the community and the world.

When Patricia Wilson Covington, first vice president, asked me to express how I felt about the main discussion the meeting was almost over and nearly everyone had expressed heartfelt stories, feelings and opinions. Surprised, I tried to hide behind my notes. "I'm the reporter. Remember? I'm here to observe and to get the facts," I said. Everyone laughed.

My answer obviously weighed in at less than half an ounce. I believe it lost its value the moment I joined the circle. Thank you, to all the members who allowed me to put my objectivity on hold this time.

Park Avenue Christian Church celebrates its 100th Anniversary, Rev. Calvin Butts keynote speaker

The renowned Rev. Calvin O. Butts and gospel artist Nancy Jackson will take part in the celebration at Park Avenue Christian Church's 100th Anniversary banquet. Butts, Pastor of Abyssinian Baptist Church in New York, will be the keynote speaker of this special event being held at the Sheraton Hotel-Newark Airport in Newark on Friday, October 1.

Now the church, located at 70 Park Avenue in East Orange, has been a staple to helping and providing the community a safe haven since 1899. The church held its first service in January 1900, the first month of the twentieth century, under the direction of its pastor Rev. Robert Shepherd. Since then there have been 12 pastors, including current Pastor Rev. Raiford Wheeler, to hold the fort. Over the years, the church has gone through major changes from crime and drugs in the area to keeping up with the buildings appearance.

Now the church is one of the fastest growing churches in North



Rev. Calvin Butts (above) will be on hand for the 100th Anniversary Celebration of Park Avenue Christian Church. At right, is the church pastor Rev. Raiford Wheeler.

America with a congregation of 2,000 members since the mid-80's. Under the direction of Pastor Wheeler, the church has installed several programs and initiatives like



therapy group sessions for women, men and children and vacation bible school.

The church is nondenominational and is open seven days a week until 11 p.m. For more information on the church and tickets to the banquet, call (973) 674-4578.

Three of the top black organizations join forces for First Annual Gospel Festival college fundraiser



(Left-right) Bobby Jones, Shirley Caesar, Edwin Hawkins and Lou Rawls hosted the First Annual Gospel Festival on BET (Black Entertainment Television) last week. The First Annual Gospel Festival featured some of gospel music's most renowned artists. Performers include Kirk Franklin and Nu Nation, Fred Hammond and Rabbitt for Christ, Sista Yolanda Peoples and The Williams Brothers. Also, special sacred performances was given by Peabo Bryson, Deniece Williams and Regina Belle. The First Annual Gospel Festival represented an historic affiliation between the United Negro College Fund, Congress of National Black Churches, and the National Urban League. These three respected African American organizations - promoting a common cause, academic excellence and higher education for our nation's youth.

POSITIVELY BLACK

Creating positive images for our children

By Juniors Ricardo Stanton

"The African child who never sees African people who are respectable and dignified has difficulty learning to respect that part of themselves that they recognize as being like Africans. If the only human beings that are presented to them in their education are images of dignified people who are not Africans, then they have difficulty finding mirrors of themselves in their education. The identification with alien models is a fundamental part of the mis-education process. So even if they may have been loved in the home and even in some of their classrooms, there will be a defect in their self-love if they do not find confirmation for that love and respect in their social environment." Naim Akbar

It is imperative for Africans in America, attempting to survive mentally, emotionally, spiritually and physically under an antagonistic and anti-African social environment, to have positive images and role models that look like them, represent a respectful and dignified fashion in empowering situations.

We've had enough commercials that show black males playing basketball, shouting around or entertaining. It's mind boggling to go into a classroom or mentoring program and hear all the young boys say they want to be basketballers or rappers. Everyone can't be a professional athlete or a successful recording artist. We need to encourage our children to expand the parameters of what they feel is possible for themselves by expanding their imaginations. We need to provide them and expose them to ideas and images other than those they see in the videos, movies and in the print media. We need to show them and introduce them to scientists, inventors, entrepreneurs, men and married couples that get along, really like each other and enjoy each other's company.

Images re-enforce notions of what is real, what is possible and what is doable. The Bible says "where there is no vision the people perish" Proverbs 29:18. As a people we lack an empowering social vision for ourselves. We lack leaders who have the vision of Marcus Garvey or Mary McCloud Bethune.

After traveling around the world and assessing the socio-political condition of African people Garvey asked himself "Where are the black man's captains of industry, where is the black man's government, where is the black man's reality. We need to see men and women like Hildreth (Hal) and Bettie Walker, founders of the African American Male Achievers Network Inc."

Hal Walker was a pioneer in laser electro-optical technology who along with his wife decided to give back to the community by starting a program to expose young children to science and technology. Our communities need to support the work of Lady Sals Shabazz and her black Inventors Museum because she gives exposure to modern African-American inventors and scientists.

Chiding the major television networks for not having any black programming this fall is, in my opinion, a colossal waste of valuable time. Especially when we consider Hollywood's abysmal history and record of depicting African people in demeaning stereotypical situations. Do we really think White writers, directors and producers will offer up anything different? We need to be more proactive. We need to support people like Tim Reid in his efforts to produce quality films and television material. We need to write letters, not to the major networks, but to BET to encourage Robert Johnson to expand his programming and offer more substantive material other than music videos and reruns.

We can support creativity in our own community by purchasing Black art that provides inspirational messages and images to counter the negative images in the mainstream media.

Don't allow anyone to trick you into believing we can't exert control over our environment! Instead take the time to create a positive, productive and role models for the community to see.

Prayer Corner

Choices made with God

Day by day, we are building our lives on a foundation that God has created for us to build upon. The life-affirming thoughts we think and the God-directed choices we make are the tools we use in shaping a life of meaningful purpose. We are building a life that is rich with a diversity of people and experiences. So the choices we make are ones that are inclusive and embrace life with joy of living. What an honor it is to be in partnership with God in making simple decisions and life-changing resolutions! Knowing that God is guiding us, we make choices that are building blocks on a foundation for fulfilling a life. According to the grace of God given to make, like a skilled master builder I laid foundation, and someone else is building on it. Each builder must choose with how to build on it." Corinthians 3:10.

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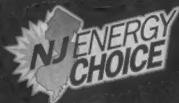


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Local Briefs

Grand jury indicts Edison police officer on bank robbery charges

NEWARK (AP) — An Edison police officer, Robert Spiniello, 47, of Brick Township, has been indicted on federal bank robbery charges. He was also charged with using a weapon in the commission of a crime. Spiniello was arrested hours after a Jan. 13 robbery at the First Savings bank in Edison. The department suspended him from the force without pay, but he remains free under house arrest. Last week, a federal grand jury in Newark returned a three-count indictment against him, which is an accusation, not a conviction. If he should be found guilty, he may be sentenced to a maximum penalty of more than 25 years in prison without parole.

Irvington's "Late Night" comes back to help the local community

IRVINGTON — The fall installment of a program to increase residents' access to all municipal services in the Irvington community, "Late Night," was held last week in the North Ward of the city at Second Reformed Church. Mayor Sam B. Bost was joined by her administrative team to field questions from citizens who came to discuss their concerns, to ask questions and to pick up information about Irvington's various municipal departments. During this first "Late Night" of the season, the city's fire department gave smoke detectors to the first fifty residents arriving at the meeting site. Bost launched the late night concept for Irvington in August, 1994, one month after taking office.

First Baptist's Back to School conference kicks off academic crusade

SOMERSET — First Baptist Church of Lincoln Gardens recently sponsored and hosted a free back-to-school conference at the McKinney School. The back-to-school conference featured noted speaker and author Dr. Jawanza Kunyfu, who was the keynote speaker, and a celebrity guest appearance by actress-comedian Kim Coles. This conference kicks off a year-long crusade the church will lead to inspire students and parents to seek academic excellence despite past circumstances and future challenges.

By Gilda Rogers
Staff Writer

With photographer Pablo Tinio in tow, we hustled to get to the airport once receiving the short-notice tip. Rosa Parks would be arriving on Northwest Airlines at 3:41. Once there, I quickly threw my work bag on the conveyor belt at the security check point, and while waiting, oh my God. My natural unbridled response was to rush over to her and throw my arms around her neck, while hoping she didn't think I was some kind of fool. She didn't. I then explained to her my mission and with a spirited spark in her eyes she said, "Please give her my love."

Arriving with tears in her eyes, the state's NAACP president, Dr. Elaine Harrington waited with us at gate 42B. Mrs. Parks was in town on September 23-25 to be honored by the NAACP State Convention—"The Century's Grand Finale."

As her companion rolled the 87-year-old matriarch, who is confined to a wheelchair, off the airplane, I couldn't help but to literally feel the words of an old spiritual "If I can touch the hem of his garment I know I'll be made whole."

This woman who single handedly changed everything—the "Mother of the modern day Civil Rights Movement" was the blessing who made my life whole. She made it possible for me to become all that I've ever dreamed of. Dressed in a royal blue coat topped off with a red felt hat, and wearing a smile, Mrs. Parks greeted me and as directed, I delivered Dr. Angelou's message.

As the small group of us walked through the corridor of the airport, I felt strong, victorious and damn special, especially when the Asian woman, Leah Wang, approached me and said, "Is that Rosa Parks?"

"Yes," I responded. The woman continued now speaking directly to Mrs. Parks. "Thank you for all that you've done for everyone." It hit me, the rightness has no boundaries.

A Savior for all humanity



Clockwise, Rosa Parks, "the Mother of the modern day Civil Rights." Delegates from the state chapter of the NAACP attend the awards banquet last Friday, where Mrs. Parks was honored. The inimitable Dr. Elaine Harrington, president of the state's NAACP and an associate professor at Passaic County Community College teaches African American Literature in the English Department. She was joined by Steven Ross, president of the college, other administrators, faculty and students.

Plainfield's McWilliams charges Human Relations group

PLAINFIELD — Mayor Al McWilliams met with the city's newly reorganized Human Relations Commission last week to discuss the Commission's work and to give them their charge.

"Plainfield has always been a diverse community, but over the past decade it has become even more so," McWilliams said. "I am hopeful that this Commission can develop a reputation for evenhanded fact finding and mediation between various segments of our community, and achieve moral authority in the community through leading by example."

While the growth of the city's Hispanic population is the most visible demographic change in years, many other ethnic groups are finding Plainfield a welcoming place to live and work. Residents speak more than 50 languages.

All five current members were present for the Human Relations Commission's reorganization meeting: Flor Gonzalez, Jaumi Sharif, Sally Beckwith, Lillian Bullock, and Susan Lattimore Jackson. The commission now seeks increased membership. Other nominations to the commission have been received in the Mayor's office, and the city council will probably approve several additional members before the commission's next meeting.

The next meeting of the Human Relations Commission is Thursday, October 14 at 7:30 p.m. at the United National Bank Education Center, 209 West Second St., Plainfield. For more information, call the office of Mayor Al McWilliams at (908) 753-3510.

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April 27, 2000

Reception & Program

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CityLife

'There's a winner in you'

Wali Hakim on a mission: 'knocking out negativity'

Contests! Contests!

EBONY Magazine

It's that time of year — EBONY announces its 9th annual short-story contest in the September issue of the magazine. The contest was founded by its publisher John Johnson in the name of his late mother, Gertrude Johnson Williams.

The winning entry should uplift the great tradition of African American literature, therefore prose that identify with drugs, vile behavior, violence and "inhumanity to men and women made inhuman by an inhuman system," will not be considered.

The deadline for submission of transcripts is October 1, 1999 and the grand-prize winner of \$5,000 will be announced in the February 2000 issue of the magazine, along with five runners-up, who each will receive \$1,000 and an honorable mention. The contest is devoted to all Americans of African descent.

The rules of the contest are as follows.

Contestants can submit only one short story.

Manuscripts must be typewritten, double-spaced, on one side of a standard-sized 8 1/2 by 11 sheet of paper and should not exceed 2,500 words.

Each manuscript must be accompanied by a letter certifying that the short story is original and is not based on the work of any other writer, living or dead. The accompanying letter must also express that the names, characters and incidents are fictional and that any resemblance to any person living or dead is purely coincidental.

A panel of professional writers will read the entries and make a preliminary selection based on originality, structure, character development, dialogue, fresh and sparkling use of language, understanding of the black tradition, emotional appeal and suitability to use by other media.

Final selections will be made by a panel of EBONY editors.

Johnson Publishing Co. retains for one year the right to publish the prize-winning entries. The company also may publish the winning entry in an anniversary issue in a collection featuring the best of EBONY stories.

The above information courtesy of EBONY magazine.

Sony Music Entertainment Spoken Word Scholarship Contest

We're listening to the voices of a new generation! Sony Music Corporate Affairs is pleased to announce its very first Spoken Word Contest. We invite full-time college students to use the power of the spoken word towards a scholarship. First prize \$2,500; Second Prize \$1,500; Third Prize \$1,000. The contest is part of Sony Music's ongoing corporate commitment to enhancing education and the arts.

To qualify, contestants must be registered full-time students in an accredited two or four-year U.S. institution. Payments will be made directly to the college in the student's name. All submissions must be postmarked or e-mailed no later than 5:00 p.m. (EST) Friday, October 22, 1999. Send all entries to: Spoken Word Contest, Sony Music, 550 Madison Avenue, Suite 533, New York, NY 10022 or e-mail to spokenword@sonymusic.com.

Only one entry per person will be permitted and submissions can be no shorter than three minutes and no longer than five minutes in normal reading length.

Pieces may be submitted on paper, typed, single-spaced in a readable font no smaller than 12-point, e-mailed, on video or audio tape. Make sure video and audio tapes are cued and clearly labeled. Labels should include name, address, phone number, school, year of graduation and running time.

Video and audio performances must be accompanied by



By Gilda Rogers
Staff Writer

Landing an upper cut, he knocks out low self-esteem. A flurry of uplifting words, and he's done it again, knocked out self-pity.

With a 37 1/4 inch arm reach, he leads with a right jab and flatens depression.

He's the undisputed "Motivational Champion of the Worrrierrrrid," the greatest at "knocking out negativity."

He's Newark's own Wali Hakim. A former street vendor and homeless man living out of St. Rocco's shelter in Newark. That was in 1993. Today, he not only travels with a portfolio compiled of all his many accomplishments as a motivational speaker, but if you've attended a Newark Bears game you've seen him there, too—Rip N Ruppert, the teams mascot, "Only in America."

A tall slender man with lightning bolt excitement in his light brown eyes, Hakim, 37, a graduate of Westside High School, is the embodiment of self actualization through a higher power, which comes from within.

Spartan rhetoric that's bound to uplift, Hakim despite his trials and many tribulations never lost his motivation to be a somebody even when he was homeless.

"There was this gentleman,



Motivational speaker Wali Hakim, dressed as Newark Bears mascot Rip N Ruppert, poses with Newark Central Ward Councilman Cory Booker.

who used to come by and speak to about a group of 50 men at the shelter," said Hakim. "I was listening to everything he said." The man was preaching motivation.

"Even though I was homeless I was still dressing like this," he said, while pointing to his dapper attire. "No matter what you still have to be motivated."

Hakim became so motivated that he took a trip to Chicago to be

staff on September 29. Hakim believes the power to achieve one's fullest potential is right within every person's reach.

"There is nothing that a person cannot do, be or have," said Hakim. "We don't look in we look out, the answer is to look within." He has applied his intense pep therapy on members of the International Youth Organization, Division of Youth and Family Services, Integers House and to the Juvenile Auto Theft and Prevention Program, which is an option for first time offenders.

'Faith lets you know even though you're living in a shelter you're not down for the count'

as opposed to serving a jail bid. "People have to have faith," he said. "Faith lets you know even though you're living in a shelter you're not down for the count. You have to connect with the creator, whoever and whatever that means to you. You have to eat, sleep, drink, and talk it."

Hakim remains undefeated as he continues his mission to "knock out negativity." And he's sorry, but to TKO (technical knock out) will not do.

Contests! Contests!

hard copy.

Performances accompanied by music must be prominent and clearly audible.

All entries should include proof of full-time status, such as bursa's receipt or letter from registrar.

The Prudential Spirit Awards

The Prudential Spirit of Community Awards, now entering its fifth year of rewarding young people in grades 5-12 for volunteer service over the past year. The application period for The 2000 Prudential Spirit of Community Awards, sponsored in partnership with the National Association of Secondary School Principals, is open until October 29. In February 2000, two young people from each state, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico, will be named their state's top youth volunteers, and will travel to Washington, D.C. in May for the national recognition events.

Applications will be available through middle and high schools, Girl Scout councils, and county 4-H offices in September. The application is also available on the internet at www.prudential.com, or by calling 1-800-843-7625, ext. 1145.

The two top volunteers from each state will receive \$1,000, a silver medalion, and an all-expense-paid trip to Washington, D.C. Each national honoree will receive an additional \$5,000, a gold medalion, and a crystal trophy for his or her school, Girl Scout council, or county 4-H organization.

Attention New Jersey Writers!

The Virginia Center for the Creative Arts (VCCA) has again received a grant from the Geraldine R. Dodge Foundation to assist in the support of fellowships for New Jersey Writers, composers, and visual artists (including photographers, video artists, and performance artists). Applications are being accepted for the year 2000. Postmarked deadline for application is January 15 and May 15 for summer and fall respectively for year 2000 residencies.

For more information, or to print an application, visit our website at www.vcca.com or call (804) 946-7236 between 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. weekdays, or to receive an application, please send a No. 10 self-addressed, stamped envelope to the VCCA, Mt. San Angelo, Box VCCA Sweet Briar, Va. 24595.

Bravo The Film and Arts Network

It recently announced Start Smart 2000, a national arts advocacy campaign. To be considered for a Start Smart 2000 National Award, applicants must be sponsored by their local cable provider where you can obtain an application to be completed before the October 30 deadline. Your cable provider does not have to be affiliated with or carry Bravo, but must sign off on your application for it to be valid.

Bravo's Start Smart 2000 campaign recognizes and rewards eight community groups and individuals for their commitment to arts education. Four winners from two categories (community, individual) will be selected by a distinguished committee of arts leaders, will be announced by the end of the year. Each recipient will receive a cash award (\$5,000 for community groups and \$2,500 for educators, participate in a local presentation, ceremony, and receive nationally televised recognition on Bravo).

Additional information is available on Bravo's website www.bravovm.com, or telephone (516) 803-4595.

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HeartBeat

September 29 — October 5, 1999

City News B3

Health Calendar

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 29

FOISON — JFK Medical Center offers a course on grandparenting 7 p.m. (732) 632-1530

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 30

GLEN RIDGE — The Medical Professional Building will hold a free open house for smokers who want to quit: 7:30 p.m. (973) 509-0047

NEW BRUNSWICK — St. Peter's University Hospital hosts a conference aimed at assisting individuals and organizations develop a culturally linguistically competent health care environment 8 a.m. (732) 745-8854

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 1

DUNELLEN — The American Red Cross of Greater Union County & Plainfield Area will hold a blood drive at the Knight of Columbus Building 3 p.m. (908) 353-2500

MONDAY, OCTOBER 4

TEANECK — Holy Name Hospital offers a support group for families experiencing the death of a baby (stillbirth) 7:30 p.m. (201) 833-3058

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 5

SOMERSET — St. Peter's University Hospital will offer a driving program for senior citizens at Home-Care America Store at Somerset Village Shopping Plaza 9 a.m. (732) 745-9999

BELLE MEAD — The Carner Foundation hosts a free program to help caregivers of older adults cope with the challenges of day-to-day caring at the foundation's Counseling Center 6:30 p.m. (800) 933-3579

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 7

BELLE MEAD — The Carner Clinic will hold a seminar and lecture on chronic pain and intravenous addiction 12 p.m. (908) 281-1451

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 10

WATCHUNG — The American Red Cross of Greater Union County & Plainfield Area will hold a blood drive at Wilson Memorial United Church 8:30 a.m. (908) 353-2500

SCOTCH PLAINS — The American Red Cross of Greater Union County & Plainfield Area will hold a blood drive at JCC of Central New Jersey 10 a.m. (908) 353-2500

MONDAY, OCTOBER 11

TEANECK — Holy Name Hospital will offer a workshop and training for students to become more efficient and effective learners Call (201) 833-3186 for time and information

PLAINFIELD — The American Red Cross of Greater Union County & Plainfield Area will hold a blood drive at St. Bernard's Church 3 p.m. (908) 353-2500

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 13

SOUTH PLAINFIELD — The American Red Cross of Greater Union County & Plainfield Area will hold a blood drive at Sacred Heart RC Church 3 p.m. (908) 353-2500

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 15

WESTFIELD — The New Jersey Chapter of Arthritis Foundation will hold a workshop for people afflicted with arthritis who want to exercise at the Westfield YMCA 8 a.m. 1- (888)-467-3112

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 16

TEANECK — Holy Name Hospital will hold a day-long workshop on people who suffer from asthma & allergies 9:30 a.m. (201) 833-3186

CRAINFORD — The American Heart Association's American hosts "Step Out. Save Lives." Heart Walk at Union County College Call (732) 821-2610 for time and information

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 17

BELLE MEAD — The Carner Clinic and Memory Lane will hold a blood drive at the Nelson Corner Shopping Mall parking lot Call (908) 281-1451 for time and information

MONDAY, OCTOBER 18

PLAINFIELD — The American Red Cross of Greater Union & Plainfield Area will hold a blood drive at United Church of Christ 3 p.m. (908) 353-2500

NEW YORK — The CJ Foundation for SIDS (Sudden Infant Death Syndrome) hosts a symposium on the disease at Time, Inc. Building 8 a.m. (212) 704-9727

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 22

SCOTCH PLAINS — The American Red Cross of Greater Union & Plainfield Area will hold a blood drive at Evangelical Church 3 p.m. (908) 353-2500

Children's Hospital of New Jersey expands literacy program with \$50,000 grant

NEWARK — A \$50,000 grant from The Healthcare Foundation of New Jersey has enabled Children's Hospital of New Jersey at Newark Beth Israel Medical Center to expand its Reach Out and Read (ROAR) pediatric early literacy program to additional locations and add an adult literacy component.

The Reach Out and Read program encourages parents to read to their children at an early age thereby making books an important part of their children's everyday lives.

An affiliate of the Saint Barnabas Health Care System, Children's Hospital of New Jersey at Newark Beth Israel Medical Center is the state's premier hospital caring for children with specialized services to treat ill and injured children from newborn through adolescence.

At a recent kickoff of the program held in the hospital's Pediatric Ambulatory Care Center, former New York Yankee and Newark Bears owner Rick Caruso, accompanied by Newark Bears mascot Rippin Ruppert, led a reading session with children from the hospital's children center.

Patricia Carroll, RN, executive director of Children's Hospital of New Jersey said, "The Reach Out and Read program at Children's Hospital will enable us to reach our young patients during their formative years when learning how to read is so important. We have also expanded the program into additional locations and will offer an adult literacy component."

"Getting books into the hands of young children and their parents is an exciting prospect for the Healthcare Foundation. It promotes a love of reading, the worth of togetherness and shared stories," added Ellen W. Kramer, senior program officer of The



Former New York Yankee and Newark Bears owner Rick Caruso reads to children at the care center during the kickoff ceremony of "Reach Out and Read" program at Newark Beth Israel Hospital.

Healthcare Foundation of New Jersey.

Designed for patients six months to five years of age, Reach Out and Read uses the power of the supportive relationships between parents and their health care providers to help children learn to read. The goal of the program is to improve literacy among children living in the community by reaching them at an early age and providing parents with the innovation, support and materials they need to teach their children about the joys of reading.

The Reach Out and Read program is introduced to patients during "well-child" visits. Once with the pediatrician and nurse, a patient is given a developmentally appropriate book to take home and read. Over time the child will acquire a library of books to share with others.

While literacy continues to be a growing problem among socially disadvantaged children, adult literacy is also increasing among the population. It is harder to address with adults because of their embarrassment or shame about not being able to read.

"We are in the process of developing an adult Reach Out and Read program that is non-threatening to adults," stated Mrs. Carroll. Reach Out and Read is also offered at the hospital's Center for Family Life at Saint James 604 Dr. Martin Luther King, and on the New Jersey Children's Health Project mobile van, which provides primary care to children in need by making regular stops at designated locations throughout Newark.

For more information about the Reach Out and Read program, please call 973-928-3661.

Women's Health 2000 Forum comes to Newark

NEWARK — The National Council of Negro Women Inc., Newark Section, will host a Women's Health 2000 Program on Saturday, October 23. The venue is the BF Johnson Community Center, 149 Springfield Avenue in Newark beginning at 9 a.m. It is our intent to start a ground swell of effective healthcare among women in the new millennium.

NCNW established in 1935, is a nonprofit community based organization. We are committed to helping women and their families improve their quality of life in areas of education, economics, health, cultural and scientific self help projects in 250 Community Based Sections throughout the United States. The Newark Section will celebrate forty five years of dedicated community service in October. NCNW has ten community-based sections throughout New Jersey and we have requested their participation. We anticipate 300 women will be in attendance. Activities of the day will include a series of workshops focusing on: Stress Management, Nutritional Health and various disease affects. Choices Youth — empowerment girls between the ages 12-17; Healthy Eating with a Chef

Demonstration, Breast Cancer Awareness Local OB/GYN Roundtable.



The event will be highlighted by a lecture on Women and Uterine Fibroids presented by Elizabeth A. Stewart, M.D., Assistant Professor of Obstetrics, Gynecology and Reproductive Biology, Harvard Medical School, Clinical Director at the Center for Uterine Fibroids at Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston, Massachusetts. In addition, local gynecologists have been invited to take part in a round table discussion on traditional treatment and alternative therapy.

If you would like to give your opinion on any health tips,

fax them to
CITY NEWS at
(973) 642-5444

or mail to:

111 Mulberry St., Suite 1F
Newark, NJ 07102

Doctor prescribes holistic practicality in life-long weight management

By Regina Lynch-Hudson

According to Dr. Marcus L. Wells, over 35 million people or approximately one-third of the American public is obese. Dr. Wells maintains that obesity is the most preventable yet most widespread new disease. He says it is a by-product of a technologically superior, state-of-the-art, sedentary society.

After years of treating patients as an internal medicine specialist, Dr. Wells noted a startling discovery: obesity was the central theme in many of his patients' illnesses. Further research and a fellowship at the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute solidified his belief that obesity is the recurring culprit behind many illnesses and ailments. Citing obesity as a disease that exacerbates and intensifies other diseases and conditions, Dr. Wells deems lifestyle management as a crucial step in preventive medicine. Gout, diabetes, hypertension, and even social problems such as depression are worsened by obesity. Though American dieters spent

more than \$1.78 billion at commercial weight-loss centers in 1995, he is quick to point out that few Americans have a "Bay Watch" body.

In his new book, "Lifestyles for the 21st Century: A New Quality of Life," Dr. Wells provides a straightforward look at how fast-track technology has affected society. Television, DVD players, Surround Sound, and the Internet have replaced a lifestyle that once included for children hop-otch, jump rope, and for adults strolling around the neighborhood. And avalanche of fast food restaurants yielding revenues of almost \$100 million — have metamorphosed a culture that is experiencing an obesity epidemic.

Through a curative voyage, Dr. Wells emphasizes that we gain control of our weight when we gain control of our lives. Dr. Wells' central message in "Lifestyles for the 21st Century" is that we must rely on practical information and not commercialism to create a healthier image internally and externally.

Newark Beth Israel Medical Center Free Community Health Fair

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Artz Wednesday

City News B4

September 29 — October 5, 1999

The Monmouth County Urban League presents the 1st Annual Jazz Legends Concert and Luncheon

featuring

Jimmy McGriff and Hank Crawford

Shore Casino, Atlantic Highlands, October 10, 2:30 p.m.
For information, telephone (732) 345-1868



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These concerts are part of Lincoln Center's *The Ellington Centennial*. Tickets are available at the Alice Tully hall box office or call CenterCharge at (212) 721-6500



There's something about Keith David, and it's at the Hotel Delmonico

There's something about Keith David. Known most recently for his role as the stepfather in the movie blockbuster, *There's Something About Mary*, and as the lead in August Wilson's *Seven Guitars*, David will dazzle audiences on stage once again with his baritone voice in limited engagements performing cabaret at Hotel Delmonico's D Lounge beginning October 1.

The veteran actor will bring his intimate understanding of love songs to New York in a series of performances running through December 15. The program, entitled *"Songs for Lovers,"* is a richly sensual collection of Broadway and jazz classics made famous by Nat King Cole, Frank Sinatra, Joe Williams, Arthur Prysock, Billy Eckstine, and Johnny Hartman.

Even though David has had more success in the acting field, he has held a lifetime interest in singing. "I enjoy performing cabaret, sharing my passion for love songs, as often as my shooting schedule permits," said David. "I've always enjoyed singing, and the intimacy of the D Lounge at the Hotel Delmonico offers an added dimension to my performance. I can connect with the audience in a way I cannot through film or Broadway theatre."

His upcoming performances begin at 9:30 p.m. and 11:30 p.m. in the Art Deco-styled D Lounge, located in the Hotel Delmonico, 502 Park Avenue at 59th Street. Cover charge is \$25 with a two-drink minimum.

Reservations can be made by calling (212) 466-0508. Performances are scheduled for the following dates: October 1, 2, 15-16, 22, 23, 29-31, November 12-13, 19-20, December 10-11, 14 and 15.



Photo Courtesy of Wachman Cear Group

Prince lives happily ever after with new album and his troubles behind him

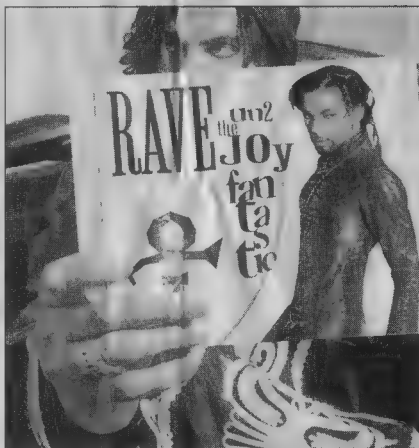


Photo Courtesy of Arista Records

The past decade has not been a fairytale for The Artist Formerly Known As Prince.

After ruling the music scene through the 80s and 90s with his countless soundtracks and such famous singles as "Get Off", "Cream", "Diamond and Pearls," and others, the Artist felt limited and entrapped by his previous label, Warner Brothers Records, and waged a public campaign to get out of his contract. Most noticeably, he shaved the word "Slave" into his beard as a sign of his discontentment.

He also had turmoil in his personal life, with the birth and death of a son born in 1996 to him and his then wife and back-up dancer Mayte Garcia. (Earlier this year the couple obtained an annulment but are still together romantically.)

But quickly after that storm came the sun, which shined on a new musical project, called NPG (New Power Generation) Records. He was released from his contract in 1995 and signed a deal with EMI for the release of his liberation album, *"Emancipation"*. Under NPG Records, he released music over the Internet and sold 250,000 copies of a five-disc set called *Crystal Ball*. In this time, he also worked with Larry Graham of the Graham Central Station and Chaka Khan in collaborative music projects.

Now, the Artist has signed with a new label, Arista Records, whose powerhouse music roster includes Aretha Franklin, Sean "Puffy" Combs, 112, Monica, Whitney Houston, Deborah Cox, Total, TLC, and Faith Evans. But for Clive Davis, CEO and founder of Arista Records, the pride he has in the success of his artist roster could not compare to his delight in signing the artist.

"I've been asked many times over the years with which artist I would most like to have a professional relationship. My answer was always The Artist Formerly Known As Prince. So to me, this is a dream come true," Davis said.

In an agreement with Arista, he will release his new album, *"Rave Un2 the Joy Fantastic"*, in early November, and his first single, *"The Greatest Romance Ever Sold"* in late September.

This album reflects the Artist's current state of happiness over his new record deal.

"The problems I had with so-called majors were regarding ownership and long term contracts. Both of these problems are non-existent in my agreement with Arista. Things seem to work best when all parties agree, and we do," the Artist said.

Joining him on this album are such recording artists as Chuck D, Sheryl Crow, Gwen Stefani of No Doubt, and saxophonist Maceo Parker.



Photo Courtesy of New Jersey Performing Arts Center

Upcoming NJPAC performance blends a cappella with classical percussions

Coming to the Metropolitan area of Newark are the smooth sounds of the acclaimed a cappella group, King's Singers who will team up with electrifying percussionist, Evelyn Glennie, for a stop at the New Jersey Performing Arts Center on October 14 at 7:30 p.m. in the Prudential Hall, as part of their "Street Songs" tour.

These two musical forces came together in 1998 for the first time to record *Street Songs* (RCA Red Seal), which was followed by a critically acclaimed tour of the United Kingdom. In their first U.S. tour together, these extraordinary performers collaborate once again, performing selections from their album, which features music from South Africa and children's play songs from the streets of England.

In addition to Glennie's famous solo percussion fanfare, the program will include "Lalala Zulu", a popular South African set of six a cappella songs by composer Stanley Glasser, Peter Klatzow's "The Return of the Moon", an evocative portrait of life in the bush, and of the ritual importance of the sun and moon, and *Street Songs*, a song cycle written specifically for the King's Singers and Glennie by British composer Steve Martland. The artists end the concert with a medley of music from Tony Award-winning Broadway production of Walt Disney's *The Lion King*, arranged by Andrew Pryce Jackman.

Since their debut in May 1968, the King's Singers have performed the most diverse repertoire of any vocal group in the world. The group's universal popularity stems from their unique ability to communicate the sheer enjoyment of singing a vast and eclectic repertoire. Equally at home singing Renaissance madrigals, transcriptions of orchestral classics, folk music in various languages, and popular songs, the King's Singers are also committed to presenting new music. They have commissioned over 200 new works of prominent contemporary composers, including Richard Rodney Bennett, Luciano Berio, Peter Maxwell Davies, Libby Larsen, György Ligeti, Gian-Carlo Menotti, and a wide variety of other well known composers.

Glennie is one of the world's premier percussionists, becoming one of the first ever full-time solo percussionist in the field of classical music, and is unanimously credited with transforming the role of percussive instruments within the classic music world. She has received over 44 awards including a Grammy she is a published author (her autobiography is titled *Good Vibrations*), and an acclaimed composer in her own right.

Tickets are \$10-\$46 and may be purchased by telephone at (688) GO-NJPAC (1-888-465-5722) or at the NJPAC Box Office at One Center Street in Downtown Newark.

Billboard

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 29

MADISON — The Paper Mill Playhouse presents the musical comedy "Mame." Call (973) 593-0189 for time and information.

CAPE MAY — The Cape May Stage presents the thrilling play "Angel Street." 8 p.m. (609) 884-1341.

NEW BRUNSWICK — Crossroads Theatre presents actress-comedian Kim Coles and Charles Randolph-Wright create and star in the play "Whoopi Goldberg." 8 p.m. (732) 240-6560.

NEW YORK — The Knickerbocker Bar and Grill presents comedy Jimmy Krieger and bass player Ed Howard through Oct. 2 & 3 p.m. (212) 228-8490.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 30

MONTCLAIR — Luna Stage Company presents the play "Class Mothers '68." 8 p.m. (973) 744-3309.

NEWARK — The Newark Museum "After Hours" presents the Geary Moore Quintet Trio. 6 p.m. (973) 596-6550.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 1

NEWARK — Al Haymon and Barristers Entertainment presents the "Legends of Soul" concert starring The Whispers, The Dells, The Manhattaners, and The Brothers at Newark Symphony Hall. 7 p.m. (973) 643-8009.

NEW BRUNSWICK — The State Theatre presents legendary trumpet player Chuck Mangione. 8 p.m. (732) 246-7440.

NEW YORK — Joyce SoHo hosts an explosive dance exhibit featuring the work of Lulu Lara through Oct. 3. 8 p.m. (212) 334-7478.

NEWARK — The New Jersey Performing Arts Center (NJPAC) presents Latin Jazz Festival featuring The Cuervo Valdes Quintet and The Danilo Perez Trio. 8 p.m. 1-(888)-GO-NJPAC.

BROOKLYN, NY — World Festival 2000 returns with a weekend of food, fun and music for the whole family at Fort Hamilton Military Base through Oct. 11. Call (718) 630-9692.

NEW YORK — Jazz at Lincoln Center and the Juilliard School hosts a free outdoor concert on the piano strings of legendary Duke Ellington, part of the Ellington Centennial. Call (212) 875-5597 for time and information.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 2

NEW BRUNSWICK — The State Theatre presents the concert version of the novel "Midnight in the Garden of Good and Evil" featuring Johnny Mercer and Julia LaRosa. 8 p.m. (732) 246-7409.

NEW YORK — The Studio Museum of Harlem presents a book workshop featuring author Manuel Acosta. 2 p.m. (212) 894-4500.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 5

NEW YORK — Feinstein's at The Regency presents Rotary Manoeuvres. 8 p.m. (212) 356-4129.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 6

TEANECK — The American Stage Company presents the story of romance, heartbreak, and passion in "O. Henry's Lovers." Call (201) 892-7744 for time and information.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 9

NEW BRUNSWICK — The American Repertory Ballet opens its 22nd season with live dancing and singing. 8 p.m. (732) 246-1254.

NEW BRUNSWICK — The George Street Playhouse presents the play "Do I Hear Waltz?" Call (732) 246-7717 for time and scheduling information.

NEWARK — The New Jersey Performing Arts Center (NJPAC) presents Festival Cerbeno Assafite with Conjunto Folklorico De La Alianza Dominicana and Vence Agua at 8 p.m. 1-(888)-GO-NJPAC.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 10

NEWARK — The New Jersey Performing Arts Center (NJPAC) presents the Edward Villella's Miami City Ballet. 3 p.m. 1-(888)-GO-NJPAC.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 13

NEW YORK — Shore Fire Media presents legendary soul singer Wilson Pickett at Irving Plaza. Call (718) 522-7171 for time and information.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 14

NEWARK — The New Jersey Performing Arts Center (NJPAC) presents The King's Singers and Evelyn Glennie, percussion. A Metropolitan area exclusive and NJPAC debut. 7:30 p.m. 1-(888)-GO-NJPAC.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 15

NEWARK — The New Jersey Performing Arts Center (NJPAC) presents the Brazilian dance group Quasar. 7:30 p.m. 1-(888)-GO-NJPAC.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 19

NEW YORK — Feinstein's at the Regency presents the man himself Michael Feinstein. Call (212) 665-4300 for time and information.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 21

NEWARK — Benster Entertainment and Mendocino Entertainment presents the gospel play "Secret Lover" through Oct. 24th. 8 p.m. (973) 643-8009.

Mathis goes from running the streets to running TV court

Judge went from behind bars to passing them

It used to be just Judge Warner. Then came Ed Koch. Next came Judge Judy. Now comes along her husband Jerry. Don't forget Judge Joe Brown, who racks up his share of celebrities from Coolio to Ike Turner.

And what's the name of that judge on the new show "Divorce Court?"

Hold up, I almost forgot Mills Lane.

There are so many new court shows that one would wonder if there is room for another one. And of course the answer...yes?

That is the answer, and the man backing that up is former Michigan judge "Judge Greg Mathis."

Mathis' path to television began as a youth, when he was involved with gangs, dropped out of school, and spent time in jail. But after making a promise to his dying mother, he turned his life around for the better.

He went to college, earned his law degree, became the youngest judge in Michigan's history and then served as a Superior Court Judge for Michigan's 38th District. Known for running his courtroom with a very no-nonsense style and street-wise sensibility, Mathis describes himself as an example to those who appear before him.

The angle to Mathis is his ability to relate to some of the disputants before him. Mathis believes rehabilitation is within everyone's reach if they receive the right guidance, which is what he tries to provide.

The show, which is targeted for daytime and early fringe time periods, is a one-hour episode that features four cases of legally binding arbitration. Leslie Merrill is the court reporter, and Brendan Moran serves as bailiff.

"Judge Mathis" is produced by And Syndicated Productions in association with Black Pearl Entertainment and distributed by Warner Bros. Domestic Television Distribution.

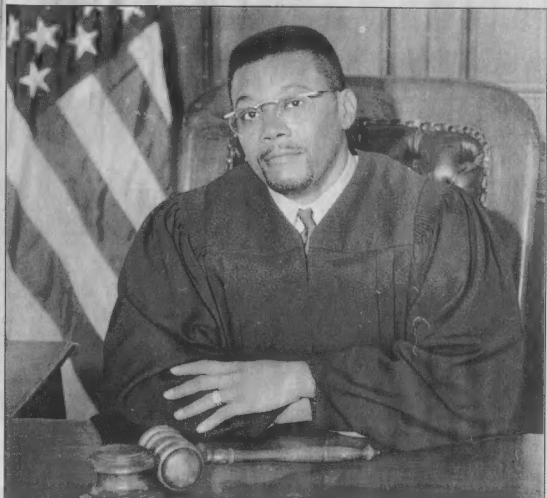


Photo Courtesy of Thirteen/WNET

Whoopi gets wild with "Zoo Babies"

Whoopi Goldberg is known for her wild, crazy, and down to earth style of comedy.

After bringing this brand of comedy to millions all over the world, she will have her chance to get wild in "In The Wild: Zoo Babies with Whoopi Goldberg", part of the "In The Wild" series which will premiere on Sunday, October 3 at 8 p.m. presented by Thirteen/WNET on PBS.

Goldberg will host the show, which takes a look at different species from all over the world that are in danger of becoming extinct.

Her explanation into the obstacles of becoming a parent takes Goldberg to a spot she calls "the most amazing place on the face of the earth."

Goldberg heads behind the scenes at the San Diego Zoo to help care for an assortment of baby animals, including a baby rhino, a California condor, and monkeys. She sees how wildlife specialists help the fight against extinction for these animals.

Goldberg even gets a glimpse of the Frozen Zoo, a laboratory that stores endangered species' genes at minus 320 degrees Fahrenheit to preserve them indefinitely. In theory, if a species is to become extinct, there is a chance it could be recreated from these stored genes.



Photo Courtesy of Thirteen/WNET

Whoopi Goldberg feeds a baby rhino in her "In The Wild" episode on PBS.



Photo Courtesy of the New Jersey Performing Arts Center

Miami City Ballet to appear at NJPAC

Ballet comes from one artistic mecca to another as Edward Villella's Miami City Ballet makes its debut here at the New Jersey Performing Arts Center October 9 at 8 p.m. and October 10 at 3 p.m. in Prudential Hall.

The company arrives with two separate programs that include works from George Balanchine and choreography by Paul Taylor and MCB resident choreographer Jimmy Gamonet De Los Heros.

On the first day the company will perform Balanchine's complete "Jewels". This is the first time the company has performed the complete ballet in the northeast besides the New York City Ballet. The ballet was created by Balanchine for the New York City Ballet, but the MCB was the first company outside of NYCB to acquire the rights to perform the full-length ballet, widely regarded as one of Balanchine's supreme achievements.

The company's October 10 program is a mixed repertoire, including Balanchine's "Prodigal Son," and Glinka's "Pas de Trois," one of Paul Taylor's most successful ballets, "Arden Court," and The Big Bad SUPERMEGATROID by Jimmy Gamonet De Los Heros, set to the swing hits of Benny Goodman and Glenn Miller.

Edward Villella is known for his contribution to the popularization of the role of the male in dance through the artistry and virility he exhibited during his performance career. He was the first American-born male star of the NYCB, where he performed from 1957 through 1975.

During his years with NYCB, he originated a variety of roles including Tarentella, the "Rubies" section of "Jewels," and the part of Oberon in "A Midsummer Night's Dream."

Villella rose to fame during the revival of Balanchine's "Prodigal Son," a 1929 masterpiece of the NYCB.

Tickets are priced between \$12-\$56 and can be purchased by telephone at 1-888-GO-NJPAC (1-888-466-5722), or the NJPAC Box Office at One Center Street in downtown Newark.

'Things You Shouldn't Say Past Midnight'



Photo by Peter Cunningham

Peter Rini (l) and Hazelle Goodman (r) join forces with Larry Storck in the comedic and raucy play "Things You Shouldn't Say Past Midnight", by Peter Ackerman and directed by John Rando. It is running at the Promenade Theatre at 2163 Broadway and 76th Street in New York City. Performances are Mondays and Wednesdays through Fridays at 8 p.m. Saturday performances began at 6 and 9 p.m., and Sundays 3 and 7 p.m. Tickets can be purchased through Telecharge at (212) 239-6200.

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Countdown to 2000

Important Community Announcement

CITYNET 2000

"We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness."

— Declaration of Independence

Having celebrated the last Fourth of July of the 20th century, we encourage the citizens of New Jersey, particularly those in black and urban communities, to take a stand for the betterment of our communities by proclaiming our independence from those things that have kept us from reaching our full potential.

We invite you to join with communities across our great state as we sow the seeds of freedom and justice now, to reap a great harvest for ourselves and most importantly for our children. This joint venture for our freedom is CityNet, an initiative of City News Publishing Company.

CITYNET is a deliberate and sustained initiative to build and unite New Jersey's black and urban communities. The three primary objectives are to foster, encourage, and support the broad-based exchange of information, to create and produce a comprehensive array of inclusive statewide programs, and to publicly recognize all levels of achievement, both individual and collective.

By joining together all segments of our state's population in this new initiative, we believe that renewing our efforts for educational excellence, better employment opportunities, healthy lifestyles, affordable quality housing, spiritual renewal, economic development and civic pride, among other concerns, are achievable goals.

From Paterson to Camden, CityNet will serve as the community center which unites the gospel of the church with the reformation of the education system; the voting drives in the political arena to the accumulation of wealth in urban communities. CityNet will reflect the spirit of the city and the people and forces that keep that spirit alive.

Join us in declaring our independence and celebrate the struggles of our ancestors by proclaiming a new vision of the future.

Just sign your name to be published in City News as your commitment to our collective efforts in helping our black and urban communities grow and prosper in the new millennium.

I declare my commitment to the growth and development of our black and urban communities in the new millennium.

Signed _____ Date _____

Please return to City News Independence, 111 Mulberry St., Suite 1F, Newark, NJ 07102 or fax to (973) 642-5444.

Declare your independence.

EKB Basketball Showcase provides drama in Edison

80 players convened last week at J.P. Stevens High School in Edison to display their skills in front of more than 60 college coaches including coaches from St. Peter's, Rider University, Fairleigh Dickinson University, Norfolk State and Stoney Brook.



Greg Moore

The 6th annual showcase, organized by its proprietor, Ed Butler of Orange, helps to provide additional exposure to lesser known but talented New Jersey players who aspire to play college basketball.

During the event, players were assigned to different teams which were then paired against each other in a round robin tournament of sorts. Every year, the event yields a few surprises, and this year surprise is named Neal Barbaris.

Barbaris, a 6-10, 230 lb product of West Milford High School, impressed on lookers with his size, strength, skill level, and athleticism. Barbaris represents just the type of "diamond-in-the-rough" which Butler's tournament has been uncovering over the past several years. Lightly recruited before the EKB classic, Barbaris should expect his correspondence from college coaches to increase exponentially.

Seton Hall recruit and current Seton Hall Prep star Mar-

The 6th annual showcase, organized by its proprietor, Ed Butler of Orange, helps to provide additional exposure to lesser known but talented New Jersey players who aspire to play college basketball.

cus Toney-El was on hand, but his team was eliminated in the semi-finals of the tournament. The event culminated in an exciting championship match between a red team which featured Steve Butler, a 6-4 senior at Rancocas Valley High School, and an Orange team which was led by Mike Goia, a 6-3 senior out of Somerville.

The championship was decided in dramatic fashion when 5-11 Dwayne Lee out of St. Anthony's High School hit a half-court three-pointer at the buzzer. The shot enabled the red team to nip the orange team 62-61 and capture the tournament championship. Steve Butler led the red team in scoring with 14 points. Mike Goia paced the orange team with 21 points.

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The Roy Johnson Show!

Johnson takes Hampton to the top at football classic

By Jean H. Pierre
Staff Writer

EAST RUTHERFORD — The 29th Annual New York Urban League Classic (formerly the Whitney M. Young) became "The Roy Johnson Show," as the Hampton quarterback threw a touchdown and scored a touchdown to knock off rival Grambling State Tigers 27-7 in front of 41,000 at Giants Stadium.

Johnson, a senior, was absolutely dominant by going 17 of 20 for 143 passing yards. His co-star, running back Montrell Coley, was excellent as well by rushing for 149 yards and scoring a 98-yard touchdown, the longest in Hampton history. Head coach Joe Taylor talked highly about his star quarterback, who was voted most valuable player.

"He could beat with his feet, arm and mind," said Taylor, who's in his eighth season as coach of the Pirates. "We've been riding him the entire season. He was it."

Hampton held Grambling State to 14 first downs and 11 yards passing. Grambling's running game was totally ineffective as it rushed for 81 yards to Hampton's 331.

Johnson felt it was important to beat Grambling State to the punch.



"We definitely had got off to a good start because last year they made a come back in the second half," said Johnson. "We

"He could beat you with his feet, arm and mind," said Taylor, who's in his eighth season as coach of the Pirates. "We've been riding him the entire season. He was it."

had to stay on them, stay on top. The momentum was there today."

The Pirates (4-0, NCAA Division I-AA, 3-0 in the MEAC) continues its dominance of the Tigers (2-1, 0-1 SWAC West) by going 5-2 in the series. Grambling State coach Doug Williams had nothing but praise for Hampton.

"They played well and made some big plays," said Williams, who's in his second year as head coach. "Thought we had a chance when it was 7-0, but we didn't. They were strong."

Party over here!

The best in black college football is on the asphalt not the field

By Jean H. Pierre

EAST RUTHERFORD — The month of September ushers in many things. Back to school, leaves falling and changing color, and days getting shorter. But nothing stands out more than the atmosphere of college football on Saturdays. For African Americans in New York and New Jersey, a late September Saturday means Giants Stadium, where football is not the real show. With good reason.

The New York Urban League Football Classic (formerly Whitney M. Young) may have the attention of die-hard football fans, but the excitement and fun is outside the stadium with the yearly game festivities. Many say it's a day to celebrate black college football, to others it's being together and having a good time that makes the event special. Johnny Kender of New York sees it as a national holiday.

"It's beautiful, absolutely beautiful. Preknuk has nothing on us," said Kender, who's been coming to the game since 1991. "People dancing and talking and sharing in on the fun. Nothin' but love."

Since 1988, when the game moved from Yankee Stadium in New York to Giants Stadium, more than 2 million people convene to the Meadowlands parking lot to eat, drink, dance, purchase, and mingle with fellow tailgaters. With a strong Southern contingent, that includes areas in which the teams hail from, the game provides the opportunity for friends to hook-up for a bangin' good time.

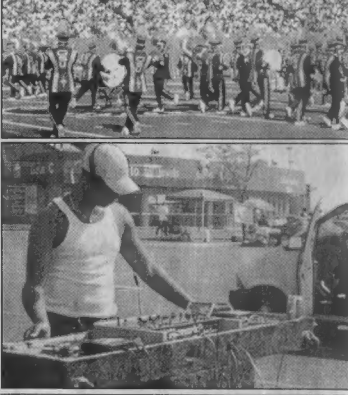
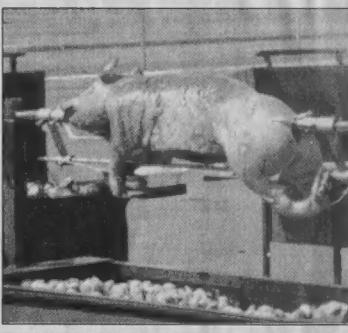
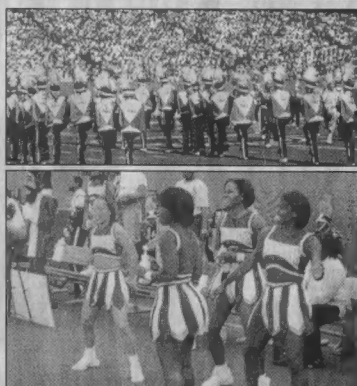
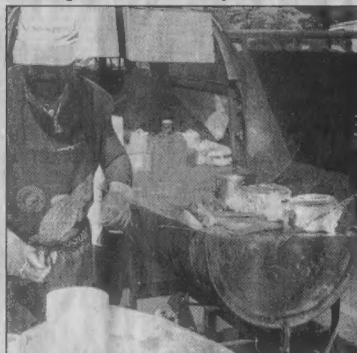
Janal Taylor and his buddies from Howard University in Washington, DC, have been attending the annual since 1994, and each year it gets better for them.

"Nobody really cares about the game, this is the game out here," said Taylor. "The ladies look good and food is slamming. Why be in there when you could be out here."

The tailgating is not the only spectacular happening. The big show on the field is battle of the bands competing at half time in all its pageantry. This year's battle lived up to the hype as the Hampton Pirates and the Grambling State Tigers duelled to the latest steps and tunes. But the New York Step Club also had the crowd going in a frenzy thanks in part to their young handleaders.

Joe McNair, who has attended the event since its inception in 1968, feels pride in what the event has become.

"It makes me smile on what was in the beginning to what it is now, total joy," said McNair, who lives in Ridgefield, NJ. "One day out of the year this becomes an experience you can't forget. This is the Super Bowl for the players, fans and black college football." And so it ever.



At top, tailgaters prepare to feast on a roasted pork. Second, Grambling State Marching Band entertains the crowd during half-time. Middle, dj sets up his turntables to rock the crowd. Bottom, vendor showcases his array of items for sale to the spectators.

At top, the cook prepares to add more tasty items to the grill. Second, the Hampton Marching Band stomps away during the halftime festivities with the cheerleaders (middle) looking on. At the bottom, spectator views the work of an artist who drew images of rappers (left) the late Tupac Shakur, DMX and the late Biggie Smalls (a.k.a. Christopher Wallace).